



## **Pathways Taskforce**

**April 23, 2015  
9:00a.m. – 10:30a.m.**

**Indiana Government Center South  
Conference Room 4  
Public Entrance 302 W. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Jason Bearce, Lt. Governor Sue Ellspermann, Roger Feldhaus, Matt Fleck, Jessica Fraser, Angela Klitzsch, Marie Mackintosh, Betsy McCaw, SPI Glenda Ritz, Ian Steff, Chris Hancock (for Calvin Thomas), Lynne Weisenbach

**Members Not Present:** Mike Barnes, Betsy Delgado, JR Gaylor, Representative Christina Hale, Gary Hobbs, Dan Waldrop

#### **I. Welcome and Call to Order**

Lieutenant Governor Sue Ellspermann called meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

#### **II. Review and Approval of March 23, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

A motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting was made and the adoption of the minutes passed by unanimous voice vote.

#### **III. Defining Sector Partnerships and Career Pathways**

Lieutenant Governor Ellspermann introduced Marie Mackintosh, Associate Chief Operating Officer for Workforce Strategy at the Department of Workforce Development. Ms. Mackintosh provided the taskforce with a brief update and overview on the work that had been going on in regard to the initiatives of the taskforce.

#### **IV. Career Counseling Brief Part I**

Ms. Mackintosh introduced Amy Marsh, Director of Career Readiness for the Department of Workforce Development. Ms. Marsh provided an update on school counseling policy and current trends. She also discussed a project the Indiana Chamber of Commerce is working on with CELL to discover the most effective models to deliver school counseling services and to include pathway information into in-service counseling efforts. Currently the ratio of students to counselors is very high and will need to be addressed in order to improve counseling efforts. Ms. Marsh stated that Ivy Tech is looking to improve their student advising efforts across the state. Superintendent of Public Instruction, Glenda Ritz, stated that it may be helpful to look at

the best models which focus on building relationships and hopes these types of models are included in the counseling models being investigated by the Chamber and CELL.

## **V. Career Pathways Framework**

The Lieutenant Governor then introduced Hans Meeder with the National Center for College and Career Transitions and Todd Hurst of the Education Workforce Innovation Network (EWIN). Mr. Hurst stated that clear definitions of sector partnerships and career pathways at the state level is needed in order to move forward in the work of the EWIN project. Mr. Meeder stated that the Works Councils may provide a vehicle to help create an integrated, connected pathway system in Indiana; a system that allows for a focus on high-need, high-growth sectors. A request for participation will be released to approximately 11 sites (including employer organizations, post-secondary partners, school systems, CTE centers, youth serving organizations, etc.). These requests will allow the state to identify well-established sector partnership structures already in existence and areas where partnerships are wanted and needed. Mr. Meeder provided an overview of the career pathways handout, which provided definitions related to career pathways. He also stated that it may be helpful to further combine similar clusters at the high school level to help make clusters and pathways more understandable to high school students. Mr. Bearce stated that it would be helpful to students if the state could make pathways seamless between high school and college. Doing so may require smaller schools and colleges to offer additional pathways to students.

Mr. Meeder further discussed the definitions of programs of study and the pathways system. Superintendent Ritz stated that the Indiana Department of Education wants to increase pathways for all and asked what that would entail. Mr. Meeder stated philosophical changes are needed. Superintendent Ritz mentioned she would be willing to hold summits across the state to explain pathways and express the need to incorporate them into all school systems in Indiana. These summits could be one avenue to help change the mindsets of superintendents and of families for pathways to successfully be implemented across the state.

## **VI. Sector Partnership Framework**

Jessica Fraser of the Institute for Working Families presented on sector strategies in Indiana. She explained how sector strategies differ from sector partnerships. A variety of reasons were discussed regarding the need for sector partnerships, including: skill deficits on a statewide level, the need for state-level policy changes, and to align state-level policies and funding streams across education, workforce development, and economic development. Next steps will include working with taskforce members and gather feedback, compiling data, writing the narrative and framework content, presenting the framework, determining an RFP process, reviewing proposal submissions, and consulting during the selection process. Ms. Mackintosh stated that the taskforce should look into emerging partnerships and partnerships that already exist in the state moving forward. Mr. Ian Steff with the Indiana Economic Development Corporation discussed a few partnerships that currently exist in the technical field in Indiana and is willing to connect Ms. Fraser with these partnerships to move this initiative forward.

## **VII. Next Steps**

Lieutenant Governor Ellspermann stated that the taskforce will need to decide what recommendations will be provided to the Career Council at the June meeting.

The Lieutenant Governor adjourned the meeting at 10:31 am.